VB™-3

300W All-Tube Bass Amplifier

Operating Manual

www.peavey.com

Intended to alert the user to the presence of uninsulated “dangerous voltage” within the product’s enclosure that may be of sufficient magnitude to constitute a risk of electric shock to persons.

Intended to alert the user of the presence of important operating and maintenance (servicing) instructions in the literature accompanying the product.

CAUTION: Risk of electrical shock — DO NOT OPEN!
CAUTION: To reduce the risk of electric shock, do not remove cover. No user serviceable parts inside. Refer servicing to qualified service personnel.

WARNING: To prevent electrical shock or fire hazard, this apparatus should not be exposed to rain or moisture, and objects filled with liquids, such as vases, should not be placed on this apparatus. Before using this apparatus, read the operating guide for further warnings.

Este símbolo tiene el propósito, de alertar al usuario de la presencia de “(voltaje) peligroso” sin aislamiento dentro de la caja del producto y que puede tener una magnitud suficiente como para constituir riesgo de descarga eléctrica.

Este símbolo tiene el propósito de alertar al usario de la presencia de instruccones importantes sobre la operación y mantenimiento en la información que viene con el producto.

PRECAUCION: Riesgo de descarga eléctrica ¡NO ABRIR!
PRECAUCION: Para disminuír el riesgo de descarga eléctrica, no abra la cubierta. No hay piezas útiles dentro. Deje todo mantenimiento en manos del personal técnico cualificado.

ADVERTENCIA: Para prevenir choque electrico o riesgo de incendios, este aparato no se debe exponer a la lluvia o a la humedad. Los objetos llenos de liquidos, como los floreros, no se deben colocar encima de este aparato. Antes de usar este aparato, lea la guia de funcionamiento para otras advertencias.

Ce symbole est utilisé dans ce manuel pour indiquer à l’utilisateur la présence d’une tension dangereuse pouvant être d’amplitude suffisante pour constituer un risque de choc électrique.

Ce symbole est utilisé dans ce manuel pour indiquer à l’utilisateur qu’il ou qu’elle trouvera d’importantes instructions concernant l’utilisation et l’entretien de l’appareil dans le paragraphe signalé.

ATTENTION: Risques de choc électrique — NE PAS OUVRIR!
ATTENTION: Afin de réduire le risque de choc électrique, ne pas enlever le couvercle. Il ne se trouve à l’intérieur aucune pièce pouvant être reparée par l’utilisateur. Confiez l’entretien et la réparation de l’appareil à un réparateur Peavey agréé.

AVIS: Dans le but de reduire les risques d’incendie ou de decharge electrique, cet appareil ne doit pas etre expose a la pluie ou a l’humidite et aucun objet rempli de liquide, tel qu’un vase, ne doit etre pose sur celui-ci. Avant d’utiliser de cet appareil, lisez attentivement le guide fonctionnant pour avertissements supplémentaires.

Dieses Symbol soll den Anwender vor unisolierten gefährlichen Spannungen innerhalb des Gehäuses warnen, die von Ausreichender Stärke sind, um einen elektrischen Schlag verursachen zu können.

Dieses Symbol soll den Benutzer auf wichtige Instruktionen in der Bedienungsanleitung aufmerksam machen, die Handhabung und Wartung des Produkts betreffen.

VORSICHT: Risiko — Elektrischer Schlag! Nicht öffnen!
VORSICHT: Um das Risiko eines elektrischen Schlages zu vermeiden, nicht die Abdeckung enfernen. Es befinden sich keine Teile darin, die vom Anwender repariert werden könnten. Reparaturen nur von qualifiziertem Fachpersonal durchführen lassen.

WARNUNG: Um elektrischen Schlag oder Brandgefahr zu verhindern, sollte dieser Apparat nicht Regen oder Feuchtigkeit ausgesetzt werden und Gegenstände mit Flüssigkeiten gefuellt, wie Vasen, nicht auf diesen Apparat gesetzt werden. Bevor dieser Apparat verwendet wird, lesen Sie bitte den Funktionsführer für weitere Warnungen.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

WARNING: When using electrical products, basic cautions should always be followed, including the following:

1. Read these instructions.
2. Keep these instructions.
3. Heed all warnings.
4. Follow all instructions.
5. Do not use this apparatus near water.
6. Clean only with a dry cloth.
7. Do not block any of the ventilation openings. Install in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.
8. Do not install near any heat sources such as radiators, heat registers, stoves or other apparatus (including amplifiers) that produce heat.
9. Do not defeat the safety purpose of the polarized or grounding-type plug. A polarized plug has two blades with one wider than the other. A grounding type plug has two blades and a third grounding plug. The wide blade or third prong is provided for your safety. If the provided plug does not fit into your outlet, consult an electrician for replacement of the obsolete outlet.
10. Protect the power cord from being walked on or pinched, particularly at plugs, convenience receptacles, and the point they exit from the apparatus.
11. Only use attachments/accessories provided by the manufacturer.
12. Use only with a cart, stand, tripod, bracket, or table specified by the manufacturer, or sold with the apparatus. When a cart is used, use caution when moving the cart/apparatus combination to avoid injury from tip-over.
13. Unplug this apparatus during lightning storms or when unused for long periods of time.
14. Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel. Servicing is required when the apparatus has been damaged in any way, such as power-supply cord or plug is damaged, liquid has been spilled or objects have fallen into the apparatus, the apparatus has been exposed to rain or moisture, does not operate normally, or has been dropped.
15. Never break off the ground pin. Write for our free booklet "Shock Hazard and Grounding." Connect only to a power supply of the type marked on the unit adjacent to the power supply cord.
16. If this product is to be mounted in an equipment rack, rear support should be provided.
17. Note for UK only: If the colors of the wires in the mains lead of this unit do not correspond with the terminals in your plug, proceed as follows:

    a) The wire that is colored green and yellow must be connected to the terminal that is marked by the letter E, the earth symbol, colored green or colored green and yellow.

    b) The wire that is colored blue must be connected to the terminal that is marked with the letter N or the color black.

    c) The wire that is colored brown must be connected to the terminal that is marked with the letter L or the color red.
18. This electrical apparatus should not be exposed to dripping or splashing and care should be taken not to place objects containing liquids, such as vases, upon the apparatus.
19. The on/off switch in this unit does not break both sides of the primary mains. Hazardous energy can be present inside the chassis when the on/off switch is in the off position. The mains plug or appliance coupler is used as the disconnect device, the disconnect device shall remain readily operable.
20. Exposure to extremely high noise levels may cause a permanent hearing loss. Individuals vary considerably in susceptibility to noise-induced hearing loss, but nearly everyone will lose some hearing if exposed to sufficiently intense noise for a sufficient time. The U.S. Government's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has specified the following permissible noise level exposures:

Duration Per Day In Hours	Sound Level dBA, Slow Response
8	90
6	92
4	95
3	97
2	100
1 1/2	102
1	105
1/2	110
1/4 or less	115

According to OSHA, any exposure in excess of the above permissible limits could result in some hearing loss. Ear plugs or protectors to the ear canals or over the ears must be worn when operating this amplification system in order to prevent a permanent hearing loss, if exposure is in excess of the limits as set forth above. To ensure against potentially dangerous exposure to high sound pressure levels, it is recommended that all persons exposed to equipment capable of producing high sound pressure levels such as this amplification system be protected by hearing protectors while this unit is in operation.

SAVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS!

WICHTIGE SICHERHEITSHINWEISE

ACHTUNG: Beim Einsatz von Elektrogeräten müssen u.a. grundlegende Vorsichtsmaßnahmen befolgt werden:

CE

1. Lesen Sie sich diese Anweisungen durch.
2. Bewahren Sie diese Anweisungen auf.
3. Beachten Sie alle Warnungen.
4. Befolgen Sie alle Anweisungen.
5. Setzen Sie dieses Gerät nicht in der Nähe von Wasser ein.
6. Reinigen Sie es nur mit einem trockenen Tuch.
7. Blockieren Sie keine der Lüftungsöffnungen. Führen Sie die Installation gemäß den Anweisungen des Herstellers durch.
8. Installieren Sie das Gerät nicht neben Wärmequellen wie Heizungen, Heizgeräten, Öfen oder anderen Geräten (auch Verstärkern), die Wärme erzeugen.
9. Beeinträchtigen Sie nicht die Sicherheitswirkung des gepolten Steckers bzw. des Erdungssteckers. Ein gepolter Stecker weist zwei Stifte auf, von denen einer breiter ist als der andere. Ein Erdungsstecker weist zwei Stifte und einen dritten Erdungsstift auf. Der breite Stift bzw. der dritte Stift dient Ihrer Sicherheit. Sollte der beiliegende Stecker nicht in Ihre Steckdose passen, wenden Sie sich bitte an einen Elektriker, um die ungeeignete Steckdose austauschen zu lassen.
10. Schützen Sie das Netzkabel, sodass niemand darauf tritt oder es geknickt wird, insbesondere an Steckern oder Buchsen und ihren Austrittsstellen aus dem Gerät.
11. Verwenden Sie nur die vom Hersteller erhältlichen Zubehörgeräte oder Zubehörteile.
12. Verwenden Sie nur einen Wagen, Stativ, Dreifuß, Träger oder Tisch, der den Angaben des Herstellers entspricht oder zusammen mit dem Gerät verkauft wurde. Wird ein Wagen verwendet, bewegen Sie den Wagen mit dem darauf befindlichen Gerät besonders vorsichtig, damit er nicht umkippt und möglicherweise jemand verletzt wird.
13. Trennen Sie das Gerät während eines Gewitters oder während längerer Zeiträume, in denen es nicht benutzt wird, von der Stromversorgung.
14. Lassen Sie sämtliche Wartungsarbeiten von qualifizierten Kundendiensttechnikern durchführen. Eine Wartung ist erforderlich, wenn das Gerät in irgendeiner Art beschädigt wurde, etwa wenn das Netzkabel oder der Netzstecker beschädigt wurden, Flüssigkeit oder Gegenstände in das Gerät gelangt sind, das Gerät Regen oder Feuchtigkeit ausgesetzt wurde, nicht normal arbeitet oder heruntergefallen ist.
15. Der Erdungsstift darf nie entfernt werden. Auf Wunsch senden wir Ihnen gerne unsere kostenlose Broschüre „Shock Hazard and Grounding“ (Gefahr durch elektrischen Schlag und Erdung) zu. Schließen Sie nur an die Stromversorgung der Art an, die am Gerät neben dem Netzkabel angegeben ist.
16. Wenn dieses Produkt in ein Geräte-Rack eingebaut werden soll, muss eine Versorgung über die Rückseite eingerichtet werden.
17. Hinweis – Nur für Großbritannien: Sollte die Farbe der Drähte in der Netzleitung dieses Geräts nicht mit den Klemmen in Ihrem Stecker übereinstimmen, gehen Sie folgendermaßen vor:

    a) Der grün-gelbe Draht muss an die mit E (Symbol für Erde) markierte bzw. grüne oder grün-gelbe Klemme angeschlossen werden.

    b) Der blaue Draht muss an die mit N markierte bzw. schwarze Klemme angeschlossen werden.

    c) Der braune Draht muss an die mit L markierte bzw. rote Klemme angeschlossen werden.
18. Dieses Gerät darf nicht ungeschützt Wassertropfen und Wasserspritzern ausgesetzt werden und es muss darauf geachtet werden, dass keine mit Flüssigkeiten gefüllte Gegenstände, wie z. B. Blumenvasen, auf dem Gerät abgestellt werden.
19. Der Netzschalter in dieser Einheit bricht beide Seiten von den primären Haupleitungen nicht. Gerfährliche Energie kann anwesend innerhalb des Chassis sein, wenn her Netzschalter im ab Poistion ist. Die Hauptleitungen stöpseln zu oder Gerätkupplung ist benutzt, während das Vorrichtung abschaltet, das schaltet Vorrichtung wird bleiben sogleich hantierbar ab.
20. Belastung durch extrem hohe Lärmpegel kann zu dauerhaftem Gehörverlust führen. Die Anfälligkeit für durch Lärm bedingten Gehörverlust ist von Mensch zu Mensch verschieden, das Gehör wird jedoch bei jedem in gewissem Maße geschädigt, der über einen bestimmten Zeitraum ausreichend starkem Lärm ausgesetzt ist. Die US-Arbeitsschutzbehörde (Occupational and Health Administration, OSHA) hat die folgenden zulässigen Pegel für Lärmbelastung festgelegt:

Dauer pro Tag in Stunden	Geräuschpegel dBA, langsame Reaktion
8	90
6	92
4	95
3	97
2	100
1 ½	102
1	105
½	110
¼ oder weniger	115

Laut OSHA kann jede Belastung über den obenstehenden zulässigen Grenzwerten zu einem gewissen Gehörverlust führen. Sollte die Belastung die obenstehenden Grenzwerte übersteigen, müssen beim Betrieb dieses Verstärkungssystems Ohrenstopfen oder Schutzvorrichtungen im Gehörgang oder über den Ohren getragen werden, um einen dauerhaften Gehörverlust zu verhindern. Um sich vor einer möglicherweise gefährlichen Belastung durch hohe Schalldruckpegel zu schützen, wird allen Personen empfohlen, die mit Geräten arbeiten, die wie dieses Verstärkungssystem hohe Schalldruckpegel erzeugen können, beim Betrieb dieses Geräts einen Gehörschutz zu tragen.

BEWAHREN SIE DIESE SICHERHEITSHINWEISE AUF!

INSTRUCTIONS IMPORTANTES DE SECURITE

ATTENTION: L'utilisation de tout appareil électrique doit être soumise aux precautions d'usage incluant:

CE

1. Lire ces instructions.
2. Gardez ce manuel pour de futures références.
3. Prétez attention aux messages de précautions de ce manuel.
4. Suivez ces instructions.
5. N'utilisez pas cette unité proche de plans d'eau.
6. N'utilisez qu'un tissu sec pour le nettoyage de votre unité.
7. N'obstruez pas les systèmes de refroidissement de votre unité et installez votre unité en fonction des instructions de ce manuel.
8. Ne positionnez pas votre unité à proximité de toute source de chaleur.
9. Connectez toujours votre unité sur une alimentation munie de prise de terre utilisant le cordon d'alimentation fourni.
10. Protégez les connecteurs de votre unité et positionnez les cablages pour éviter toutes déconnexions accidentelles.
11. N'utilisez que des fixations approuvées par le fabriquant.
12. Lors de l'utilsation sur pied ou pole de support, assurez dans le cas de déplacement de l'ensemble enceinte/support de prévenir tout basculement intempestif de celui-ci.
13. Il est conseillé de déconnecter du secteur votre unité en cas d'orage ou de durée prolongée sans utilisation.
14. Seul un technicien agréé par le fabriquant est à même de réparer/contrôler votre unité. Celle-ci doit être contrôlée si elle a subit des dommages de manipulation, d'utilisation ou de stockage (humidité,...).
15. Ne déconnectez jamais la prise de terre de votre unité.
16. Si votre unité est destinée a etre montée en rack, des supports arriere doivent etre utilises.
17. Note pour les Royaumes-Unis: Si les couleurs de connecteurs du cable d'alimentation ne correspond pas au guide de la prise secteur, procédez comme suit:

    a) Le connecteur vert et jaune doit être connectrer au terminal noté E, indiquant la prise de terre ou correspondant aux couleurs verte ou verte et jaune du guide.

    b) Le connecteur Bleu doit être connectrer au terminal noté N, correspondnat à la couleur noire du guide.

    c) Le connecteur marron doit être connectrer au terminal noté L, correspondant à la couleur rouge du guide.
18. Cet équipement électrique ne doit en aucun cas être en contact avec un quelconque liquide et aucun objet contenant un liquide, vase ou autre ne devrait être posé sur celui-ci.
19. L'interrupter (on-off) dans cette unité ne casse pas les deux côtés du primaire principal. L'énergie hasardeuse peut être preésente dans châssis quand l'interrupter (on-off) est dans le de la position. Le bouchon principal ou atelage d'appareil est utilisé comme le débrancher l'appareil restera facilement opérable.
20. Une exposition à de hauts niveaux sonores peut conduire à des dommages de l'écoute irréversibles. La susceptibilité au bruit varie considérablement d'un individu à l'autre, mais une large majorité de la population expériencera une perte de l'écoute après une exposition à une forte puissance sonore pour une durée prolongée. L'organisme de la santé américaine (OSHA) a produit le guide ci-dessous en rapport à la perte occasionnée:

Durée par Jour (heures)	Niveau sonore moyen (dBA)
8	90
6	92
4	95
3	97
2	100
1 ½	102
1	105
½	110
¼ ou inférieur	115

D'après les études menées par le OSHA, toute exposition au delà des limites décrites ce-dessus entrainera des pertes de l'écoute chez la plupart des sujets. Le port de système de protection (casque, oreilette de filtrage,...) doit être observé lors de l'opération cette unité ou des dommages irréversibles peuvent être occasionnés. Le port de ces systèmes doit être observé par toutes personnes susceptibles d'être exposées à des conditions au delà des limites décrites ci-dessus.

GARDEZ CES INSTRUCTIONS!

INSTRUCCIONES IMPORTANTES PARA SU SEGURIDAD

CUIDADO: Cuando use productos electrónicos, debe tomar precauciones básicas, incluyendo las siguientes:

1. Lea estas instrucciones.
2. Guarde estas instrucciones.
3. Haga caso de todos los consejos.
4. Siga todas las instrucciones.
5. No usar este aparato cerca del agua.
6. Limpiar solamente con una tela seca.
7. No bloquear ninguna de las salidas de ventilación. Instalar de acuerdo a las instrucciones del fabricante.
8. No instalar cerca de ninguna fuente de calor como radiadores, estufas, hornos u otros aparatos (incluyendo amplificadores) que produzcan calor.
9. No retire la patilla protectora del enchufe polarizado o de tipo “a Tierra”. Un enchufe polarizado tiene dos puntas, una de ellas más ancha que la otra. Un enchufe de tipo “a Tierra” tiene dos puntas y una tercera “a Tierra”. La punta ancha (la tercera) se proporciona para su seguridad. Si el enchufe proporcionado no encaja en su enchufe de red, consulte a un electricista para que reemplaze su enchufe obsoleto.
10. Proteja el cable de alimentación para que no sea pisado o pinchado, particularmente en los enchufes, huecos, y los puntos que salen del aparato.
11. Usar solamente añadidos/accesorios proporcionados por el fabricante.
12. Usar solamente un carro, pie, trípode, o soporte especificado por el fabricante, o vendido junto al aparato. Cuando se use un carro, tenga cuidado al mover el conjunto carro/aparato para evitar que se dañe en un vuelco. No suspenda esta caja de ninguna manera.
13. Desenchufe este aparato durante tormentas o cuando no sea usado durante largos periodos de tiempo.
14. Para cualquier reparación, acuda a personal de servicio cualificado. Se requieren reparaciones cuando el aparato ha sido dañado de alguna manera, como cuando el cable de alimentación o el enchufe se han dañado, algún líquido ha sido derramado o algún objeto ha caído dentro del aparato, el aparato ha sido expuesto a la lluvia o la humedad, no funciona de manera normal, o ha sufrido una caída.
15. Nunca retire la patilla de Tierra.Escríbanos para obtener nuestro folleto gratuito “Shock Hazard and Grounding” (“Peligro de Electrocución y Toma a Tierra”). Conecte el aparato sólo a una fuente de alimentación del tipo marcado al lado del cable de alimentación.
16. Si este producto va a ser enracado con más equipo, use algún tipo de apoyo trasero.
17. Nota para el Reino Unido solamente: Si los colores de los cables en el enchufe principal de esta unidad no corresponden con los terminales en su enchufe, proceda de la siguiente manera:

    a) El cable de color verde y azul debe ser conectado al terminal que está marcado con la letra E, el símbolo de Tierra (earth), coloreado en verde o en verde y amarillo.

    b) El cable coloreado en azul debe ser conectado al terminal que está marcado con la letra N o el color negro.

    c) El cable coloreado en marrón debe ser conectado al terminal que está marcado con la letra L o el color rojo.
18. Este aparato eléctrico no debe ser sometido a ningún tipo de goteo o salpicadura y se debe tener cuidado para no poner objetos que contengan líquidos, como vasos, sobre el aparato.
19. El interruptor de en/lejos en esta unidad no rompe ambos lados de la red primaria. La energía peligrosa puede ser presente dentro del chasis cuando el interruptor de en/lejos está en el de la posición. El tapón de la red o el acoplador del aparato son utilizados como el desconecta dispositivo, el desconecta dispositivo se quedará fácilmente operable.
20. La exposición a altos niveles de ruido puede causar una pérdida permanente en la audición. La susceptibilidad a la pérdida de audición provocada por el ruido varía según la persona, pero casi todo el mundo perderá algo de audición si se expone a un nivel de ruido suficientemante intenso durante un tiempo determinado. El Departamento para la Salud y para la Seguridad del Gobierno de los Estados Unidos (OSHA) ha especificado las siguientes exposiciones al ruido permisibles:

Duración por Día en Horas	Nivel de Sonido dBA, Respuesta Lenta
8	90
6	92
4	95
3	97
2	100
1 1/2	102
1	105
1/2	110
1/4 o menos	115

De acuerdo al OSHA, cualquier exposición que exceda los límites arriba indicados puede producir algún tipo de pérdida en la audición. Protectores para los canales auditivos o tapones para los oídos deben ser usados cuando se opere con este sistema de sonido para prevenir una pérdida permanente en la audición, si la exposición excede los límites indicados más arriba. Para protegerse de una exposición a altos niveles de sonido potencialmente peligrosa, se recomienda que todas las personas expuestas a equipamiento capaz de producir altos niveles de presión sonora, tales como este sistema de amplificación, se encuentren protegidas por protectores auditivos mientras esta unidad esté operando.

GUARDE ESTAS INSTRUCCIONES!

ENGLISH

VB™-3

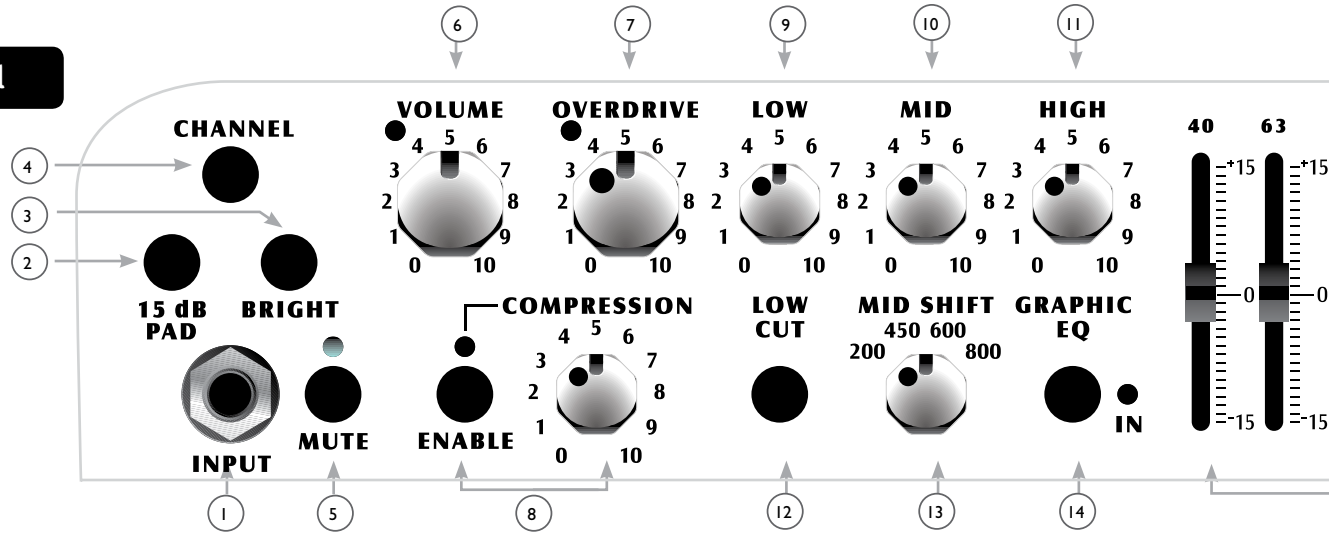
All-Tube Bass Amplifier

It's time to forget everything you know about tube bass amps. The all-new Peavey VB-3 all-tube bass head sets the new standard for tube bass amplifiers. With nearly infinite control over EQ and gain structure, the VB-3 is the perfect centerpiece of your favorite tube bass rig. The VB-3 utilizes a vintage 3-band Baxendall/Mid Cut EQ in conjunction with a 9-band constant-Q graphic plus, bright and low-cut switches, to allow for just about any EQ curve imaginable, without the complexity and noise of a parametric EQ. The all-tube optical compressor is a unique "feed-forward" design that does it's duty between the two EQ sections to help tame extreme settings and allow full use of the graphic EQ. The patented Resonance and Presence damping controls allow for multiple 'feels' with different cabs and are useful to dial in tones for particular styles, including tighter sounds that are not normally associated with tube amplifiers. There are two channels to allow more (or less) preamp distortion. Most ground-breaking, however, is the introduction of a world-compatible switching power supply that allows this 300 watt beast to weigh in at an extremely modest 37 pounds (17 kilograms)! This guide was written by bass players to help you understand the many features of the VB-3 and to aid you in getting the most out of your amp.

FEATURES

- 300 watts (rms) into 2, 4 or 8 Ohms
- Total weight of just 37 lbs!
- 8 x EL34 power tubes
- 3 x 12AX7 & 2 x 12AT7 preamp tubes
- Universal switching power supply (for use in any country)
- Top-box construction
- Dual channel: Volume/Overdrive/Low/Mid/Shift/High/Master
- LED indicators for active Volume or Overdrive control (footswitchable)
- Bright switch
- Low Cut switch
- Tube compressor w/level control, defeat switch and LED (footswitchable)
- Constant-Q 9-band graphic EQ w/defeat switch and LED (footswitchable)
- Master volume
- Master Resonance and Presence controls for frequency-selective speaker damping
- 15 dB Pad switch
- Footswitchable mute switch (blue panel LED flashes when muted)
- Power and Standby switches
- Backlighted front panel w/dimmer control
- Buffered tuner send
- Master effects loop
- Preamp in/Power amp out loop
- XLR direct out w/ground lift switch & pre/post EQ switch
- XLR direct out level control
- Two paralleled Neutrik® 1/4" Speakon® combo speaker jacks
- 2/4/8 ohm impedance selector switch

Front Panel



1 **INPUT JACK**
1/4" phone jack for connection of your instrument to the amplifier.

2 **15 DB PAD**
Engaging this switch reduces the input signal by 15 dB to reduce potential distortion on the input when using active basses or passive basses with particularly hot pickups.

3 **BRIGHT SWITCH**
Engaging this switch boosts the high-frequency response of the input circuit on both channels. It is used to accentuate highs above ~3 kHz or to emphasize high-end response.

4 **CHANNEL SWITCH**
When engaged, this switch activates the overdrive mode of the preamp. *(Note: This switch must be depressed for the remote switch to operate)*.

5 **MUTE SWITCH**
Mutes the output of the amp, but still allows use of the TUNER jack on the rear of the amp. When engaged, blue LED above the MUTE switch flashes. (Note: This switch must be depressed for the remote switch to operate).

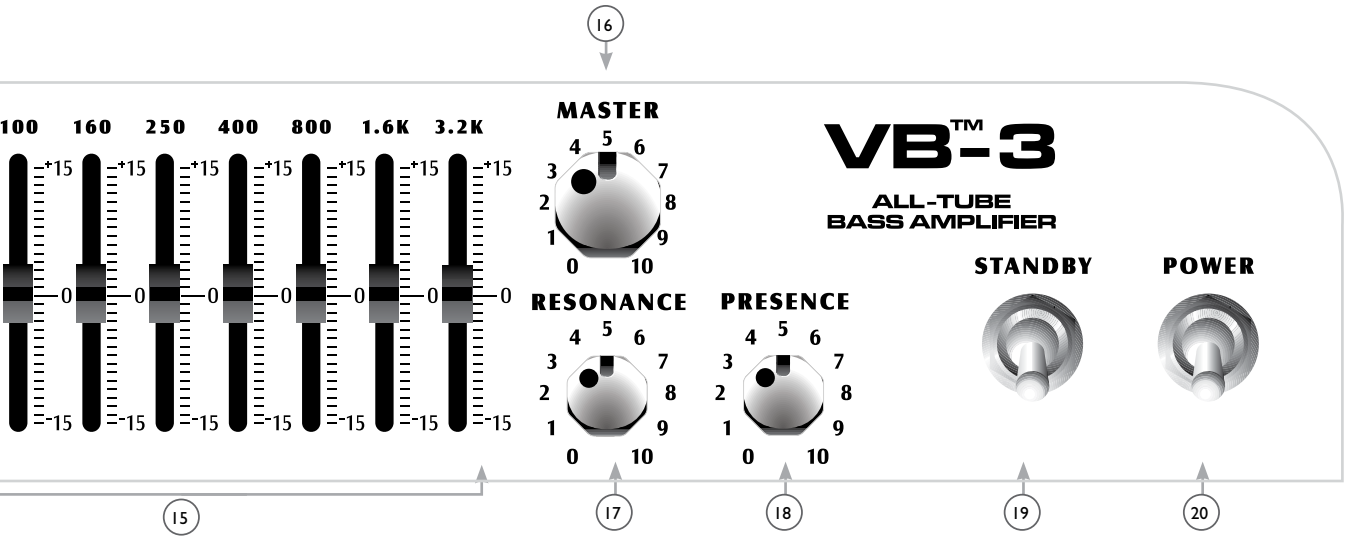
6 **VOLUME**
Controls the preamp input drive when CLEAN mode is active, which is indicated by the green LED to the upper left of the VOLUME knob. When this mode is active, the CHANNEL LED on the footswitch is off.

7 **OVERDRIVE GAIN CONTROL**
Controls the preamp input drive when OVERDRIVE mode is active, which is indicated by the red LED to the upper left of the OVERDRIVE control. When this mode is active, the CHANNEL LED on the footswitch is on (red).

8 **COMPRESSION CONTROL/ENABLE SWITCH**
These are the user controls for the on-board optical tube-type compressor circuit. When the ENABLE switch is engaged, the COMPRESSION control is functional as indicated by the LED located above the ENABLE switch. *(Note: This switch must be depressed for the remote switch to operate.)* When this mode is active, the COMPRESSION LED on the footswitch is on (green). This compressor is highly level-sensitive and triggered from the first tube stage, so it has a wide range of compression to account for a variety of active and passive basses. Although the trigger is before all EQ, the compression occurs between the rotary EQ and graphic EQ to avoid clipping in the graphic and beyond.

9 **LOW CONTROL**
Classic Baxendall shelving EQ control that cuts or boosts low frequencies.

10 **MID CONTROL**
Tube buffered post Low/High EQ control that cuts mid frequencies at the point set by the MID SHIFT switch (#13) . "Flat" mid response occurs at the maximum clockwise setting.



11 **HIGH CONTROL**
Classic Baxendall shelving EQ control that cuts or boosts high frequencies.

12 **LOW CUT SWITCH**
This switch engages a passive low cut circuit to filter extreme low frequencies, pre EQ, to allow for more headroom at higher gain settings.

13 **ID SHIFT SWITCH**
Switches the center frequency of the MID control to 800, 600, 450, and 200 Hz.

14 **GRAPHIC EQ SWITCH**
This switch places the GRAPHIC EQ into the signal path in it's "in" position (denoted by the LED to the right of the switch) and provides a total bypass in it's "out" position. (NOTE: This switch must be depressed for the remote switch to operate).

15 **GRAPHIC EQUALIZER**
The VB-3 utilizes a footswitchable solid-state 9-band "constant-Q" graphic equalizer to allow for optimal tone shaping, for which the GRAPHIC EQ SWITCH can provide a total bypass. The frequency centers were chosen to have more "harmonically pleasing" centers rather than being evenly spaced for the sake of convention. Each slider provides +/- 15dB of cut or boost, in each respective band.

16 **MASTER VOLUME CONTROL**
Controls the overall volume level of the amplifier.

17 **RESONANCE CONTROL**
Adjusts the low-frequency damping factor of the power amplifier, which gives the amp a "tighter" sound when fully dialed counter clockwise and an increasingly "looser" sound when adjusted clockwise.

18 **PRESENCE CONTROL**
Adjusts the high frequency damping factor of the power amplifier, which gives the amp a "mellow" character when fully counter-clockwise and more of "biting" or forward character when rotated clockwise.

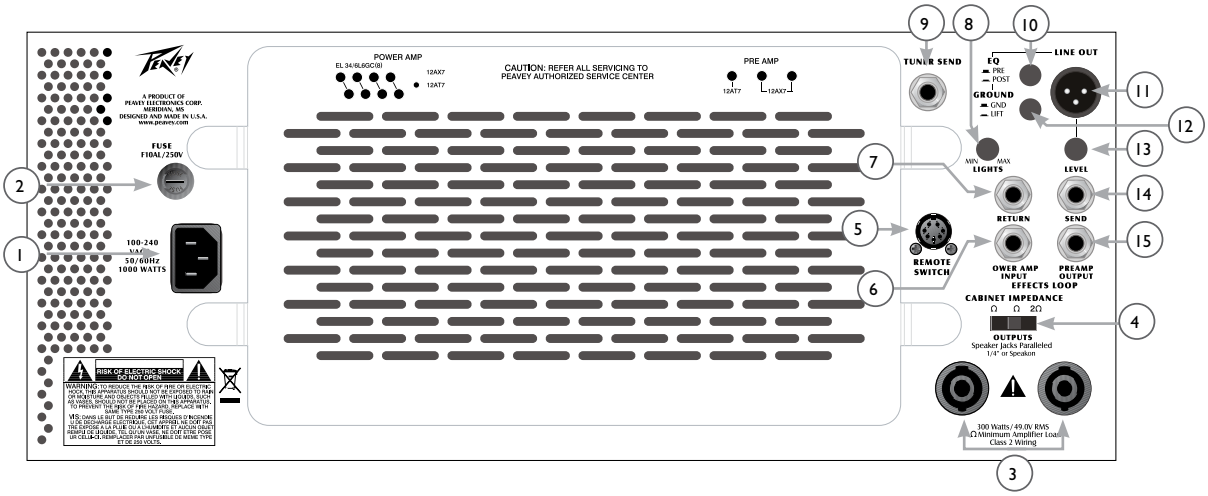
19 **STANDBY SWITCH**
This switch turns on the high-voltage supply on or off, with up being the ON position. The preamp and DI will still function when this switch is off.

TIP: Always allow at least 5 minutes of warm-up time before switching the STANDBY switch on. This will improve performance and reliability of the power tubes.

20 **POWER SWITCH**
Turns the unit on or off, with up being the ON position.

Caution: The on/off switch in this unit does not break both sides of the primary mains. Hazardous energy can be present inside the chassis even when the on/off switch is in the OFF position.

Back Panel



1 **IEC POWER OUTLET**

Your AC mains cord plugs in here. The VB-3 has a proprietary universal switch mode power supply that accepts AC line voltages from 100 VAC to 240 VAC, at 50-60 Hz for correct operation in ANY country with the proper IEC mains cord/plug.

U.S. Domestic AC Mains Cord

The mains cord supplied with the unit is a heavy-duty, three-conductor type with a conventional 120 VAC plug with ground pin. It should be connected to an independent circuit capable of continuously supporting at least 15 amps. This is particularly critical for sustained high-power applications. If the outlet used does not have a ground pin, a suitable adapter should be used and the third wire grounded properly. All apparatus with class 1 construction shall be connected to a mains socket with a protective earthing connection.

Never break off the grounding pin on any equipment. It is provided for your safety. The use of extension cords should be avoided, but if necessary always use a three-wire type with at least #4 AWG wire size. Always use a qualified electrician to install any electrical equipment. To prevent the risk of shock or fire hazard, always be sure the amplifier and all associated equipment is properly grounded.

NOTE: For UK Only

If the colors of the wires in the mains lead of this unit do not correspond with the colored markings identifying the terminals in your plug, proceed as follows: (1) The wire that is colored green and yellow must be connected to the terminal that is marked by the letter E, the Earth symbol, colored green or green and yellow. (2) The wire that is colored blue must be connected to the terminal that is marked with the letter N or the color black. (3) The wire that is colored brown must be connected to the terminal that is marked with the letter L or the color red.

2 **FUSE HOLDER**

This is the main fuse for the amplifier. If this fuse blows, unplug the amplifier and switch the POWER and STANDBY switches off before attempting to replace it. Use only the fuse specified. Care should be taken when replacing this fuse, as it could be a sign something is seriously wrong with the amplifier.

3 **SPEAKER OUTPUT JACKS**

These are the main outputs of the power amplifier. These are combination jacks that will accept either Neutrik® Speakon® connectors OR standard 1/4" inch jacks. Both outputs are in PARALLEL. External wiring connected to the output jacks should be made by an instructed person or use UL approved, ready-made leads or cords.

4 **IMPEDANCE SELECTOR SWITCH**
The IMPEDANCE SELECTOR switch is located on the rear of the unit. There are output transformer taps for 2, 4 and 8 ohm loads since these are the most common impedance requirements for bass cabinets. Using the correct setting is important to ensure longer tube life and maximum performance. It is best if this switch is configured while the amp is in standby mode. Simply move the selector to the correct impedance setting.

Tip: If you are unsure about the impedance of your speaker enclosures, just look on the back of your enclosures. Usually, you will see a 4 ohm or 8 ohm specification. Combining cabinets will change the impedance. If you use two 8 ohm cabinets at the same time (in parallel) you should use the 4 ohm setting, and if you use two 4 ohm cabinets at the same time (in parallel) you should use the 2 ohm setting.

5 **REMOTE SWITCH JACK**
Seven-pin DIN input for channel switching, compression, graphic EQ and mute with included footswitch.

6 **POWER AMP INPUT**
This jack provides a direct connection to the input of the power-amp section and can also be used in conjunction with the PREAMP OUTPUT jack as an auxiliary loop for higher-level effects or a master volume pedal.

7 **EFFECTS RETURN**
This jack provides a low-level return for outboard effects outputs and can also be used as a low-level power-amp input.

8 **LIGHTS**
This control sets the intensity of the front-panel backlighting.

9 **TUNER SEND**
This jack may be used to send a straight, buffered signal to an electronic tuner, or it can be used as a signal pass-through to send a signal to another amplifier for bi-amping. This jack is always active when the power is ON.

10 **PRE/POST EQ SWITCH**
When this switch is in the OUT position, the DI is driven from the first tube stage before the EQ. When the switch is in the IN position, the DI is driven from the output of the preamp after the graphic EQ.

11 **LINE OUT**
This balanced XLR output provides a direct connection to a mixer or recording device.

12 **LINE OUT GROUND LIFT SWITCH**
Sets the LINE OUT ground to be either common with the amplifier (out) or lifted from the amplifier (in) for the purpose of ground loop and hum elimination.

13 **LINE OUT LEVEL**
This control sets the level of the LINE OUT jack that is sent to the respective mixer or recording device.

14 **EFFECTS SEND**
This jack provides a low-level send for outboard effects inputs and also be used as a low-level send to an external power amp.

15 **PREAMP OUTPUT**
This jack provides a direct connection from the output of the preamp section, so that it can be "slaved" into an additional power amp and used as a "send" to compete a loop as described above in the POWER AMP INPUT description.

NOTES ON TUBE REPLACEMENT

WARNING! Never use ANY power tube type other than EL34, 6CA7, KT77 or 6L6GCs. Doing otherwise may result in damage to the amp, unpredictable performance, and/or electric shock.

• Use or specify a matched octet (8) of EL34/6CA7 or 6L6GC power tubes, depending on the setting of the internal bias switch.

• Have the bias set by a professional. This should be done every time ANY of the power tubes are replaced. If the bias is set wrong, the amp will not put out maximum power, the output will be more distorted, and the tubes may not last as long. If you are having it re-biased for use with 6L6GC power tubes, you should expect to get about 240 W (rms) of clean power output, instead of the 300 W with the standard EL34 tubes.

• It is perfectly normal for power tubes, like the EL34 type used in the VB-3, to emit a soft blue glow.

• It is widely accepted that new-old-stock (NOS) vacuum tubes are superior, but this is not always the case. While there are fantastic antique tubes available, they are rare and very costly, and in reality, the actual benefits you receive are minimal.

• The eight power tube heaters are connected in complementary pairs, as depicted on the rear panel. If one filament fails, its complement is disconnected as well, resulting in less power while maintaining balanced current through the power amp.

Tube Complement & Functions:
For best performance, use only tube types specified.
V1 = 12AX7/ECC83/7025
A-Input gain stage
B-2nd gain stage/Overdrive boost
V2 = 12AX7/ECC83/7025
A-Low & High make-up gain/Mid driver
B-Compressor/Graphic EQ driver
V3 = 12AT7/ECC81
A-Graphic EQ return/Effects Send driver
B-Effects return/Preamp Out driver
V4 = 12AX7/ECC83/7025
A-Power Amp input make-up gain/driver
B-Split-load phase inverter
V5 = 12AT7/ECC81
A-"Push" follower for power tube drive
B-"Pull" follower for power tube drive
V6-V13 = EL34/6CA7 (6L6GC Optional) Output tubes

Power Amp Section:
Rated Power & Load:
300W (rms) into 2, 4, or 8 Ohms (selectable impedance)

Power Amp Input Sensitivity:
3.0V (rms) / / 10dBv @ ~500k Ohms

Hum & Noise:
Greater than XXdB below rated power

Power Consumption:
1000W (rms) @ 100-240VAC; 50-60Hz

Preamp Section:
The measurements were made at the following settings, unless otherwise noted:
-Volume=5
-Overdrive=0
All front panel switches=OUT
Low/Mid/High=5
Mid Shift=450Hz
Graphic Sliders=0
Master=5
Resonance=0
Presence=0

Preamp Input Sensitivity (nominal):
3.0V(rms) / 10dBV @ 4.0Meg Ohms
0.18V(rms) / -5.0dBV @ 100k Ohms (15dB pad engaged)

Compression Ratio:
Unity to XX:XX (variable)

Rotary Low/Mid/High EQ:
Low & High shelving Baxendall circuit
Low corner frequency=XXHz
High corner frequency=XXHz
Mid (cut only) frequency centers @200, 450, 600 or 800 Hz

Graphic EQ:
Nine constant-Q filters with +/-15dB cut or boost
Centers at 40, 63, 100, 160, 250, 400, 800, 1.6k and 3.2kHz

Effects Loop Sensitivity:
Send=0.90V(rms)/-1.0dBV@~80k Ohms
Return=0.90V(rms)/-1.0dBV@~1Meg Ohms

Preamp Out Sensitivity:
3.0V(rms)/10dBV@~80kOhms

XLR Line Out (Level @ 12 o'clock):
75 Ohms, electronically balanced
Pre EQ Send=XXmV(rms)/-XXdBV
Post EQ Send=XXmV(rms)/-XXdBV

Footswitch Functions:
Channel Select, Compression, Graphic EQ, Mute

Dimensions & Weight:
11.25"H x 22.50"W x 11.25"D
37.0 lbs.

Notes

PEAVEY ELECTRONICS CORPORATION LIMITED WARRANTY

Effective Date: January 1, 2009

What This Warranty Covers
Your Peavey Warranty covers defects in material and workmanship in Peavey products purchased and serviced in the U.S.A. and Canada.

What This Warranty Does Not Cover
The Warranty does not cover: (1) damage caused by accident, misuse, abuse, improper installation or operation, rental, product modification or neglect; (2) damage occurring during shipment; (3) damage caused by repair or service performed by persons not authorized by Peavey; (4) products on which the serial number has been altered, defaced or removed; (5) products not purchased from an Authorized Peavey Dealer.

Who This Warranty Protects
This Warranty protects only the original retail purchaser of the product.

How Long This Warranty Lasts
The Warranty begins on the date of purchase by the original retail purchaser. The duration of the Warranty is as follows:

Product Category	Duration
Guitars/Basses, Amplifiers, Pre-Amplifiers, Mixers, Electronic Crossovers and Equalizers	**2 years (+ 3 years)***
Drums	**2 years (+ 1 year)***
Enclosures	**2 years (+ 3 years)***
Digital Effect Devices	**1 year (+ 1 year)***
Microphones	**2 years**
Speaker Components (including speakers, baskets, drivers, diaphragm replacement kits and passive crossovers)	**1 year**
Rockmaster® Series, Strum'n Fun, Vectra, Rotor®, OCC Stage Pack, GT & BT Series Amps, Retro Fire, Metal Maker, and Iron Wing	**1 year**
Tubes and Meters	**90 days**
Cables	**Limited Lifetime**

[*Denotes additional warranty period applicable if optional Warranty Registration Card is completed and returned to Peavey by original retail purchaser within 90 days of purchase.]

What Peavey Will Do
We will repair or replace (at Peavey's discretion) products covered by warranty at no charge for labor or materials. If the product or component must be shipped to Peavey for warranty service, the consumer must pay initial shipping charges. If the repairs are covered by warranty, Peavey will pay the return shipping charges.

How To Get Warranty Service
(1) Take the defective item and your sales receipt or other proof of date of purchase to your Authorized Peavey Dealer or Authorized Peavey Service Center.
OR
(2) Ship the defective item, prepaid, to Peavey Electronics Corporation, International Service Center, 412 Highway 11 & 80 East, Meridian, MS 39301. Include a detailed description of the problem, together with a copy of your sales receipt or other proof of date of purchase as evidence of warranty coverage. Also provide a complete return address.

Limitation of Implied Warranties
ANY IMPLIED WARRANTIES, INCLUDING WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, ARE LIMITED IN DURATION TO THE LENGTH OF THIS WARRANTY.
Some states do not allow limitations on how long an implied warranty lasts, so the above limitation may not apply to you.

Exclusions of Damages
PEAVEY'S LIABILITY FOR ANY DEFECTIVE PRODUCT IS LIMITED TO THE REPAIR OR REPLACEMENT OF THE PRODUCT, AT PEAVEY'S OPTION. IF WE ELECT TO REPLACE THE PRODUCT, THE REPLACEMENT MAY BE A RECONDITIONED UNIT. PEAVEY SHALL NOT BE LIABLE FOR DAMAGES BASED ON INCONVENIENCE, LOSS OF USE, LOST PROFITS, LOST SAVINGS, DAMAGE TO ANY OTHER EQUIPMENT OR OTHER ITEMS AT THE SITE OF USE, OR ANY OTHER DAMAGES WHETHER INCIDENTAL, CONSEQUENTIAL OR OTHERWISE, EVEN IF PEAVEY HAS BEEN ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGES.
Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitation or exclusion may not apply to you.

This Warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state.

If you have any questions about this warranty or service received or if you need assistance in locating an Authorized Service Center, please contact the Peavey International Service Center at (601) 483-5365

Features and specifications subject to change without notice.

Logo referenced in Directive 2002/96/EC Annex IV (OJ(L)37/38,13.02.03 and defined in EN 50419: 2005
The bar is the symbol for marking of new waste and is applied only to equipment manufactured after 13 August 2005

Features and specifications subject to change without notice.

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